IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

SANDRA FRANKLIN,) CASE NUMBER: 8:15-cv-369
Plaintiff,)
VS.)
KELLEY'S NORTH BOWL; HAINES HOLDINGS, LLC))
& &))
DOES 1-5,)
Defendants.)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Sandra Franklin, through her undersigned counsel, hereby files this Complaint and sues Kelley's North Bowl and Haines Holdings, LLC, for injunctive relief, attorney fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12181 *et seq.*, ("AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT" or "ADA") and alleges:

JURISDICTION AND PARTIES

- 1. This is an action for injunctive relief pursuant to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12181, *et seq.*, (hereinafter referred to as the "ADA"). This Court is vested with original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343.
- 2. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b).
- 3. Plaintiff, Sandra Franklin, (hereinafter referred to as "Mrs. Franklin" or "Plaintiff") is a resident of Douglas County, Nebraska.

- 4. Mrs. Franklin is a qualified individual with a disability under the ADA. Mrs. Franklin is a wheelchair-bound quadriplegic and is disabled.
- 5. Mrs. Franklin's disability, at all time's material hereto, impairs her ability to walk, a major life activity, and requires her to use a wheelchair to ambulate.
- 6. Defendants, Kelley's North Bowl, and at all times herein mentioned were, a duly organized business, association, or corporation duly authorized to exist and operate within the State of Nebraska and the owner, lessee, or tenant of the premises located at 8701 N. 30th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68112, and doing business as Kelley's North Bowl (hereinafter the "Property").
- 7. Plaintiff, on information and belief, alleges that defendant Haines Holdings, LLC is the owner and/or landlord of Defendant Kelley's North Bowl.
- 8. Plaintiff is ignorant of the defendants sued as Does 1-5. Plaintiff sues them in their fictitious names as Doe defendants. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that Does 1-5 are the owners, operators, lessees or tenants of the subject property and each of the Doe defendants at all times herein was acting as the agent and or representative of each other and thereby are responsible in some manner for the injuries and damages complained of herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of court to amend this complaint to name Doe defendants when the same is ascertained.
- 9. All events giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in the District of Nebraska.

COUNT I

(VIOLATION OF TITLE III OF THE ADA)

- 10. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates in this cause of action each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 11. The Property, a bowling alley, is open to the public and provides goods and services to the public.
- 12. Plaintiff visited the Property and attempted to utilize the facilities offered at the Property.
- 13. While at the property, Mrs. Franklin experienced serious difficulty accessing the goods and utilizing the services therein due to the architectural barriers discussed herein; specifically, Mrs. Franklin cannot enter the bowling alley unless someone physically carries her and her chair up the front entrance steps.
- 14. On one occasion in particular, employees, due the barriers discussed herein, carried Mrs. Franklin up the stairs in her chair.
- 15. The combined weight of Mrs. Franklin and her electric wheelchair exceeds 300lbs.
- 16. While being picked up by employees, Mrs. Franklin was very scared of being dropped, as she has no way to protect herself in the event of a fall due to her disability.
- 17. Mrs. Franklin has notified managers and employees, on at least two separate occasions, of her difficulty entering and accessing the goods available at the Property.
- 18. Mrs. Franklin has even notified employees and staff that she would bring a lawsuit to enforce ADA compliance.
- 19. Despite multiple warnings, the site remains unchanged and inaccessible to Plaintiff.
- 20. Mrs. Franklin continues to desire to visit the Property, but fears that she will continue to experience serious difficulty due to the barriers discussed herein, which still exist.

- 21. Mrs. Franklin has concrete plans to visit and will visit the Property in the near future to utilize the goods and services offered thereon.
- 22. Defendants are in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12181 *et seq.* and 28 CFR §36.302 *et seq.* and are discriminating against the Plaintiff due to Defendant's failure to provide and/or correct the following barriers to access which were personally observed, encountered and which hindered Plaintiff's access:
 - A. Failure to comply with ADA Accessibility Guidelines (hereinafter referred to as the "ADAAG") for parking:
 - I. Improper signage installed No "Van Accessible" signage and signage at improper height (ADAAG 4.6.4);
 - II. Regular Disabled parking space Not appropriate width or length. There are no "Regular Disabled Loading and Un-Loading Access Aisles" in parking lot (ADAAG 4.6.3);
 - III. No signage installed No emblems painted on the ground surface (ADAAG 4.6.4);
 - IV. Curb Ramp Project into Vehicular Traffic (ADAAG 4.7.6)
 - B. Failure to comply with ADA Accessibility Guidelines (hereinafter referred to as the "ADAAG") for bathrooms:
 - I. No International Symbol Signage of accessibility located near the restroom (ADAAG 4.30.6);
 - II. No insulated covers on pipes under lavatories to protect against contact (ADAAG 4.19.4; 4.24.6);
 - III. Knee clearance (ADAAG 4.19.2);

- IV. Grab bars Length; Proper extension from water closet; Distance from rear wall; Bathroom rear grab bars (ADAAG 4.17.6);
- V. Accessories and Fixtures (ADAAG 4.23.7);
- VI. Toilet Stall Size/Clearance (ADAAG 4.17.3);
- VII. Improper hardware on Door/Stall (ADAAG 4.13.9)
- 23. Defendants either do not have a policy to assist people with disabilities or refuses to enforce such a policy if it does exist.
- 24. Independent of her intent to return as a patron to the Property, Plaintiff additionally intends to return to the Property as an ADA tester to determine whether barriers to access stated herein have been remedied.
- 25. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property is readily achievable, reasonably feasible and easily accomplishable without placing an undue burden on Defendants.
- 26. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property would allow Plaintiff to fully utilize the goods and services located therein.
- 27. The Plaintiff has been obligated to retain undersigned counsel for the filing and prosecution of this action. Plaintiff is entitled to have his reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses paid by Defendants.

8:15-cv-00369-JMG-CRZ Doc # 1 Filed: 10/13/15 Page 6 of 6 - Page ID # 6

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants and requests the

following injunctive relief:

A. That the Court declare the Property owned, leased, leased to and/or operated by

Defendants is in violation of the ADA;

B. That the Court enter an Order directing Defendants to alter its facilities to make them

accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities to the full extent required by

Title III of the ADA;

C. That the Court enter an Order directing Defendants to evaluate and neutralize its policies

and procedures towards persons with disabilities for such reasonable time so as to allow

Defendants to undertake and complete corrective procedures;

D. That the Court award reasonable attorney fees, costs (including expert fees) and other

expenses of suit to the Plaintiff; and

E. That the Court awards such other and further relief as it deems necessary, just and proper.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

BY: *s/Ross Pesek*

ROSS R. PESEK # 24636

PESEK LAW, LLC

1904 Farnam Street, Ste. 410

Omaha, Nebraska 68102

(402) 342-9684

(402) 342-9683 (fax)

ross@peseklaw.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

6